

REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, claim 13 has been amended. Claims 1-12 and 14-16 have been cancelled. Claim 13 is pending and under consideration.

In the Office Action mailed September 8, 2004, claims 1, 3-6, 8, 9, 12, and 14-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by UK Patent Application GB 2 322 744 A to Sasaki et al., claims 1, 3-11, 14, and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,708,301 B1 to Ohta et al., claims 2 and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over Ohta in view of Sasaki, and claim 13 was objected to.

Claims 1-12 and 14-16 are cancelled, thus obviating the rejections thereof.

Also in the subject Office Action, the Examiner asserted that claim 13 would be allowable if amended into independent form. Claim 13 is amended into independent form. It is understood and therefore submitted that claim 13 is allowable. Withdrawal of the objections to claim 13 is respectfully requested.

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.


Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

Please charge any additional fees required for filing this Amendment to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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